VIRTUAL TRACK REPRESENTATION FOR SERPENTINE TRACK FORMAT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of representing a serpentine track accessing format includes obtaining a plurality of head and physical track number pairs in the serpentine track accessing format. Then, each of the plurality of head and physical track number pairs are mapped to a corresponding unique virtual track number. n a multi-head disc drive data storage system, use of the unique virtual track number concepts render the multi-head drive the equivalent of a single head drive having the virtual track numbers. This in turn provides computational efficiency in table searching and other processing activities. Translation engines which perform the mapping, as well as data storage systems which include the translation engines, are also disclosed.